

- (c) exposing said perturbagen-bearing host cell population to a virus;
- (d) selecting for growth-proficient cells; and
- (e) recovering from said growth-proficient cells a sublibrary of nucleic acids encoding perturbagens that confer inhibition of viral growth-related cell death.

2. (Reiterated) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting for growth-proficient cells comprises detecting cells that are not productively infected with said virus.

3. (Reiterated) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of detection comprises detection of non-fluorescent cells.

4. (Reiterated) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting for growth-proficient cells comprises a stringent selection for growth.

5. (Cancelled) [The method of claim 1, wherein said proteinaceous perturbagen is expressed in a scaffold.]

6. (Amended) The method of claim [5] 1, wherein said scaffold is non-fluorescing GFP.

7. (Reiterated) The method of claim 1 wherein said virus is selected from a group consisting of rhinovirus, reovirus, influenza virus, adenovirus, human immunodeficiency virus, human papilloma virus, hepatitis virus and herpes virus.

8. (Reiterated) The method of claim 7 wherein said virus is human immunodeficiency virus.

9. (Amended; reiterated) A method for identifying a cell proliferation gene or gene fragment that inhibits viral growth-related cell death, comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing a library of putative cell proliferation genes or gene fragments into a population of host cells;
- (b) expressing said library in said population of host cells;
- (c) exposing said library-bearing host cell population to a virus;
- (d) selecting for growth-proficient cells; and
- (e) recovering from said growth-proficient cells a sublibrary of cell proliferation genes or gene fragments that confer inhibition of viral growth-related cell death.

11. (Amended; reiterated) A method for identifying a cellular target involved in viral growth within a cell, comprising the steps of:

- (a) exposing in a protein interaction assay (i) a perturbagen obtained by the method of claim 1 to (ii) a population of putative cellular targets obtained from said growth-proficient cells; and
- (b) identifying a cellular target that interacts with said perturbagen.
13. (Amended; reiterated) The method of claim 11, wherein said step of identifying comprises a yeast two-hybrid interaction assay.

CONCLUSION

Applicant requests that the Examiner enter and consider favorably the claims as amended and submitted herein.

Please address all TELEPHONIC communication to Laura A. Handley, the undersigned attorney of Arcaris, Inc., at (801) 303-0304.

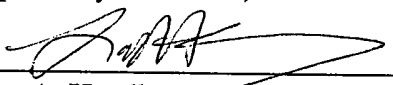
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